

# DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP



A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

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Whole No. 357



## DIME NOVEL SKETCHES NO. 34

### NICK CARTER WEEKLY

Street & Smith's best known Detective weekly. Began January 2, 1897 and lasted 819 issues to September 7, 1912. Colored covers, 7x10½, 32 pages, size enlarged to 8x11 with No. 248. It was preceded by Nick Carter Library, the black and white original series about Nick Carter and followed by Nick Carter Stories which lasted another 160 issues.

## THE NICKEL NOVEL

ALMOST EVERYBODY LIKED  
PLUCK AND LUCK

By J. Edward Leithead

A certain artist did a great many covers for Frank Tousey's weeklies, both black-and-whites and colored covers, beginning back in the early or middle 1890's (as nearly as I can figure) and continuing his work for Tousey until about 1902. The name "J. Berghaus" was mentioned at some time or other as possibly being the name of this artist; anyhow, it stayed in the back of my mind.

In a catalogue of Western Americana I recently came across an item, "Tenting on the Plains, or, General Custer in Kansas and Texas," by Elizabeth B. Custer (wife of the general), illustrated by Remington and Berghaus, published by Harpers in 1887. I thought at once, this will bear looking into. At the Free Library of Philadelphia they had a copy of the book, 1895 edition but with all the Remington and Berghaus plates just as in the 1887 edition. Well, it was a dead center hit. "A. Berghaus," who did about half the illustrations in the Custer book is the same artist who did the Tousey covers. There isn't the slightest doubt of it, for I studied the pictures carefully, and the same hand drew them, and all of his in the book were signed plainly "A. Berghaus." Frederic Remington signed his, too, and he did 9 full page and one 1/4 page illustrations, making ten in all for Remington. The frontispiece was his, showing General Custer at an Indian council.

Here is a list of the Berghaus illustrations, some full page, some not:

P-28: "Eliza Cooking Under Fire." Eliza was the Custers' cook, went everywhere with them.

P-78: "A Mule Lunching from a Pillow."

P-108: Desert fauna; Pinetree rattler, tarantula, scorpion, horned toad, etc.

P-125: "Measuring an Alligator."

P-212: "General Custer With His Horse Vic, Stag Hounds and Deer Hounds."

P-259: "General Custer at His Desk in His Library."

P-287: "Gun-stand in General Custer's Library."

P-297: "Trophies of the Chase in General Custer's Library" (mounted heads of buffalo, antelope, mountain lion and coyote, hanging shelf of books, etc.).

P-341: "A Match Buffalo Hunt." The similarity of the horses to those on nickel novel covers very plain in this picture.

P-343: More buffalo hunt stuff and figures of soldiers reminiscent of same on Tousey covers — "Gathering the Tongues" and "Counting the Tongues." Buffalo, that is.

P-345: "Supper Given by the Vanquished to the Victors of the Match Buffalo Hunt."

That is all the illustrations by "A. Berghaus"; there were, besides, two portraits, one of Custer as a West Point cadet and another at age 25, when he was "The Dashing Dragoon" of Frederick Whittaker's biography (Beadle's Boy's Library No. 20).

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Berghaus drew many covers for Frank Reade Library, Wide Awake Library, New York Detective Library, Happy Days, etc.; in color cover weeklies he did Yankee Doodle, Young Glory, Handsome Harry of the Fighting Belvedere, Young Klondike, Three Chums, some early Work and Win, Pluck and Luck, Wild West Weekly, Liberty Boys of '76 and Secret Service. Berghaus put a beard on Cheyenne Charlie, Young Wild West's partner, but a later artist took it off and left Charlie with just a mustache. In the first issue of Liberty Boys of '76, Captain Dick Slater is shown in an inset with clubbed hair, a queue, which was the fashion for men in Revolutionary War times, but Berghaus was the only one who presented Dick in that style.

I know that this artist was still working for Tousey as late as October 3, 1902, for the issue of Secret Service bearing that date, No. 193, has a cover drawn by Berghaus. As a matter of fact, No. 1 of Wild West Weekly is dated later than that, October 24, 1902, and the cover on that is his (as well as some subsequent Wild West's). But I know nothing. I regret to say, of his background. And who succeeded him as artist is still a question to be answered.

Pluck and Luck, one of the best publications ever put out by Tousey or any other publisher, made its first appearance on January 12, 1898, the same year that Young Klondike, Young Glory and Yankee Doodle were launched and Berghaus did covers for all of them. Almost everybody read Pluck and Luck when I was young; I mean not only boys but young men, like a milkman I knew, who, on the day Pluck and Luck was issued, always had the latest number folded and sticking half out of his hip pocket. It was a wonder to me it didn't fall out, the way he jumped in and out of that milk wagon, but he told me he never lost a copy.

Pluck and Luck was a sort of replacement of Wide Awake Library, and used many of the stories, in its long life, which had first been published in

that black-and-white library. Other sources of material were Tousey's story papers: Boys of New York, Young Men of America, Golden Weekly and Happy Days.

My own interest in Pluck and Luck was confined mostly, no, entirely, to stories of the Frontier West, Revolutionary War and Civil War, detective-mystery and circus stories. That was one of Pluck and Luck's main attractions, the wide variety of its stories; it took you all over the world—from the Western plains to the jungle to the North Pole. And city life, there were plenty of stories with a city background, usually New York. You could make a night run on a railroad as a youthful engineer, fight a big factory fire as a young fire chief or ride after cattle with the gauchos of South America. You could be a bareback rider in a circus or hunt tigers in India.

Although Lu Senarens, a writer for Tousey since he was 15 or 16, and author of the majority of the Frank Reade and all of the Jack Wright stories, does not state, in a letter to William J. Benners, Feb. 11, 1915, that he was editor of Pluck and Luck, I think he must have been since he was managing all the others, Happy Days, Wild West Weekly, Fame and Fortune, Secret Service, The Liberty Boys of '76 and Work and Win. He says, further, "During my regime, I started other weeklies that failed, namely, 'The Blue and Gray Weekly,' 'Young Athletes Weekly,' 'All Around Weekly' and 'Wide Awake Weekly.' " He also states (this letter was reprinted in Dime Novel Roundup for March 1942), "For Tousey I wrote some of the comic stories and stories of every description except bandit and Indian stories."

Yet there was a Denver Dan series in Wide Awake Library—No. 915, Denver Dan, Jr., the Stage Driver, and also the following issues, Nos. 1009, 1204, 1205, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1210, 1211, 1286, 1292 and possibly others, with the by-line "Noname" which was Senarens' nom. for the Frank Reade and Jack Wright stories,



and these tales of Denver Dan show him to have been fighting road agents, mountain outlaws, counterfeiters and whoever needed running to earth. Once Dan was sheriff and at another time head of a "band of dead-shots."

None of these tales ever got into Pluck and Luck. But plenty of the same type did, and one had "Noname" as author when published in Wide Awake Library No. 826, Custer's Little Dead-shot, or, The Boy Scout of the Little Big Horn; but the by-line was "By an Old Scout" when reprinted in Pluck and Luck and the title was changed somewhat, No. 348, The Boy Prairie Courier, or, General Custer's Youngest Aide. A True Story of the Battle at Little Big Horn. It is the same tale, however. Pluck and Luck No. 117 was Jack Hawthorne, of No Man's Land, or, An Uncrowned King, another Western with the by-line "Noname" (I cannot say where originally published but possibly Wide Awake). Although the nom. "Noname" was also used by Cecil Burleigh and Dr. Harry Enton, I'm inclined to think Lu Senarens wrote those Western tales.

Most Pluck and Luck "Westerns" carried the by-line "By an Old Scout," and generally noms. were used in the first printing, but another that can be linked up with its author's true name is Wide Awake No. 1154, Little Buffalo Bill, or, The Boy Scout of the Rio Del Norte, by Lieut. E. H. Kellogg. Kellogg was the writer's real name, he was a Civil War veteran, but he became "an Old Scout" when his tale was reprinted, same title, in Pluck and Luck No. 604.

Another tale of the Little Big Horn battle, printed twice in Wide Awake Library, Nos. 565 and 1196, was Custer's Last Shot, or, The Boy Trailer of the Little Big Horn, by "Col. J. M. Travers." This was a nom. of St. George Rathborne, and the story got a dandy new color cover in Pluck and Luck No. 233, same title, but "By an Old Scout." Under nom. "John Sherman," Rathborne authored Wide Awake Library No. 1150, Daniel Boone's Best Shot, or, The Perils of

the Kentucky Pioneers, reprinted in Pluck and Luck No. 536, same title, by "Old Scout."

Boone and the Renegade, or, Life in Kentucky, by "Kit Clyde" (Lu Senarens) Wide Awake No. 713, became The Unknown Renegade, or, The Three Great Scouts (Boone, Kenton and Harrod) in Pluck and Luck No. 379, with an exceptionally fine color cover.

F. W. Doughty (and more of this remarkable writer very shortly), over nom. "Robert Maynard" wrote In the Wild West, or, On the Plains With Buffalo Bill (Wide Awake No. 735) and Yellowstone Kelly (Wide Awake No. 1160), both of which were reprinted in Pluck and Luck, the first one twice, Nos. 163 and 725, with title changed to On the Plains With Buffalo Bill, or, Two Years in the Wild West; the second story, no change in title, in No. 331, and both by-lined "By an Old Scout."

George W. Goode was the real name of a Tousey writer, and it was attached to Wide Awake Library No. 876, Pawnee Bill and the Oklahoma Boomers, which, unfortunately, wasn't reprinted in Pluck and Luck with a handsome colored cover. Although there were 8 Pawnee Bill stories in Wide Awake, the one by Goode, and 7 others by "Paul Braddon" (a nom. shared by Doughty and W. Howard Van Orden, but the latter was probably the author of this series), only two got into Pluck and Luck, and the titles are so altered I'm not sure which of the 7 were reprinted.

Francis Worcester Doughty was not only the famed creator of "Old King Brady," the author of all 39 issues of Young Klondike, but a writer of stories of all kinds. He had just one Old King Brady tale in Pluck and Luck, No. 170, The Red Leather Bag. A Weird Story of Land and Sea, by "Howard Austin." This was a reprint of No. 325, Old King Brady and the Red Leather Bag, in New York Detective Library.

I would like to give some idea of the great number and variety of tales that Doughty contributed (as reprints) to Pluck and Luck; the task is com-



plicated by the fact that Doughty and Harvey K. Shackleford shared certain pseudonyms. One was "Howard Austin." Under this nom. was published in Pluck and Luck No. 137, The Farmer's Son, or, A Young Clerk's Downfall. A Story of Country and City Life. Doesn't sound much like "New York Detective" Doughty, more like Shackleford, although I may be wrong. No. 142, In the Frozen North, or, Ten Years in the Ice. That's more like Doughty. Remember a fur-clad OKB clubbing a rifle to stand off a varmint in the middle of an icepack—Secret Service No. 378, The Bradys at Hudson's Bay, or, The Search for a Lost Explorer?

Pluck and Luck No. 148 was The Haunted Mill on the Marsh, and this is positively Doughty, back at the mystery business of which he was a master. No. 156, The Haunted Belfry, or, The Mystery of the Old Church Tower is also Doughty's without question. The next four I would credit to Doughty: No. 160, Lost in the Ice, 175, The Two Diamonds, or, The Mystery of the South African Mines, 180, Fifty Riders in Black, or, The Ravens of Raven Forest, 195, The Twenty Gray Wolves, or, Fighting a Crafty King. But No. 207, still with the "Howard Austin" pseud., I'd credit to Shackleford—Give Him a Chance, or, How Tom Curtis Won His Way.

Another shared nom. was "Allyn Draper," signed to Pluck and Luck No. 136, The Two Schools of Oakdale, or, The Rival Students of Corinna Lake, and this and three other "Draper" stories handy by I'd give to Shackleford—Nos. 140, The Richest Boy in the World, or, The Wonderful Adventures of a Young American, 153, Worth a Million, or, A Boy's Fight for Justice and 164, The Cavern of Fire, or, The Thrilling Adventures of Professor Hardcastle and Jack Merton.

To Doughty, as "Allyn Draper," I'd credit Nos. 141, The Haunted Lake, 147, In the Saddle from New York to San Francisco, 159, 3,000 Years Old, or, The Lost Gold Mine of the Hatchepée Hills (sub-title sounds like one

of Doughty's Secret Service tales with a Western setting), 171, "The Lone Star," or, The Masked Riders of Texas, 194, Flyer Dave, the Boy Jockey, or, Riding the Winner, 198, A Monte Cristo at 18, or, From Slave to Avenger, 203, The Boy Pioneers, or, Tracking an Indian Treasure, 209, Buried 5,000 Years, or, The Treasure of the Aztecs.

"Allan Arnold" was another shared nom. and I would say that Doughty wrote three of the titles before me—No. 150, The Island of Fire, or, The Fate of a Missing Ship, 155, The Black Diver, or, Dick Sherman in the Gulf, 169, Captain Kidd, Jr., or, The Treasure Hunters of Long Island. The only one I credit to Shackleford (this is only a small portion of the Pluck and Luck list, as you know) is No. 176, Joe, the Gymnast, or, Three Years Among the Japs.

Still another shared nom. was "Berton Bertrew" (and "P. T. Raymond," too, although used only once in Pluck and Luck as far as I know, on a story most likely Doughty's, No. 787, Young Texas Jack, or, The Boys of the Panhandle Range); here are some "Bertrews" which I quite believe are Doughty's, Nos. 241, Ice-Bound, or, Among the Floes, 255, In the Sea of Ice, or, The Perils of a Boy Whaler, 298, Billy Button, the Young Clown and Bareback Rider, and easily a dozen other stories of the circus, and one each about the circus by-lined "Allyn Draper" and "Richard R. Montgomery." Doughty had written a bunch of circus stories in Happy Days under noms. "Robert Maynard," "P. T. Raymond" and "R. T. Emmet." These were the source of most of the Pluck and Luck circus stories.

What stories did Shackleford write that were signed "Berton Bertrew"? No. 347, Out With Peary, or, In Search of the North Pole? 396, Beyond the Aurora, or, The Search for the Magnet Mountain? I don't see either of these as his, and no particular use in going through the whole series; but I can say this, that plenty of stories signed with his own name, H. K. Shackleford, are scattered throughout Pluck and



Luck. He also used the nom. "Jno. B. Dowd" in writing those numerous temperance stories, and in one of this type at least he used his own name, No. 366, "Merry Matt," or, The Will-o'-the-Wisp of Wine. Temperance stories, tales of Wall Street and boys going up the ladder, these were Shackelford's specialties.

Many were the railroad stories in Pluck and Luck, most of them signed, "Jas. C. Merritt"—Nos. 133, Safety-Valve Steve, or, The Boy Engineer of the R. H. & W., 188, On Time, or, The Young Engineer Rivals, 230, Locomotive Fred, or, Life on the Railroad, 235, Old Sixty-nine, or, The Prince of Engineers, 244, The Maniac Engineer, or, A Life's Mystery—yes, there were a lot of them. But, since this was F. W. Doughty writing as "Jas. C. Merritt," he also did some other kinds, like No. 143, Around the World on a Bicycle, A Story of Adventure in Many Lands, 161, The Yellow Diamond, or, Groping in the Dark, 168, The Boy Canoeist, or, 1,000 Mils in a Canoe, 172, A New York Boy Out With Stanley, or, A Journey Through Africa.

Let's take another Doughty nom. used in Pluck and Luck—"Richard R. Montgomery." Under this one he authored No. 130, The Blue Door. A Romance of Mystery, 145, A Sheet of Blotting Paper, or, The Adventures of a Young Inventor, 151, The Witch Hunter's Ward, or, The Hunted Orphans of Salem, 157, The House With Three Windows, 162, The Land of Gold, or, Yankee Jack's Adventures in Australia, 191, The Coral City, or, The Wonderful Cruise of the Yacht Vesta, 196, The Palace of Gold, or, The Secret of a Lost Race.

Over the nom. "Captain Thos. H. Wilson" Doughty wrote sea stories that were something special—No. 135, Abandoned, or, The Wolf Man of the Island, 152, The Castaway's Kingdom, or, A Yankee Sailor Boy's Pluck, 158, Three Old Men of the Sea, or, The Boys of Gray Rock Beach, 165, Waterlogged, or, Lost in the Sea of Grass, 173, Afloat with Captain Nemo, or, The Mystery of Whirlpool Island, 183, Fred Fearnought, the Boy Commander,

or, The Wolves of the Sea.

I've just given a sample of the stories which appeared in Pluck and Luck under F. W. Doughty's several pseudonyms (he had even more than appear here) and also a sample of H. K. Shackelford's tales under his own name and noms.

Who else wrote for this weekly, or rather, what other writers had stories reprinted in it? Well, besides "No-name's" 25 Jack Wrights, and a lot of early frontier and Far West tales "By an Old Scout" (in reality various authors), there were the stories of boy firemen by "Ex-Fire Chief Warden," the war stories, Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, The Mexican War and the Civil War, by "Gen'l Jas. A. Gordon." A few of the latter were by Doughty, too, signed "Berton Bertrew," at least 3 about the American Revolution on land, No. 81, Nat o' the Night, or, The Bravest in the Revolution, 89, The Fly-by-Nights, or, The Mysterious Riders of the Revolution, 94, The Bullet Charmer; 2, signed "Capt. Thos. H. Wilson," of the same conflict on the sea, 369, Gallant Jack Barry, the Young Father of the American Navy and 402, Little Paul Jones, or, The Scourge of the British Coast, and one under the same nom. about the Civil War on water, 723, Dick Dareall, the Boy Blockade Runner; 2 more Civil War tales, signed "Jas. C. Merritt," 178, Gun-Boat Dick, or, Death Before Dishonor and 717, Shore Line Sam, the Young Southern Engineer, or, Railroading in War Times. This sterling writer's amazing and always up-to-standard production included, IN ADDITION to the adventure, war, circus, etc. types of stories listed in this article, over 600 tales of Old King Brady!

This great all-reprint weekly ran to 874 issues, reaching this number on March 15, 1915, and started reprinting the "reprints." It had done this before, as a matter of fact, beginning with No. 451, but leaving out many of the early numbers. Between 451 and 874, 62 were early Pluck and Lucks reprinted, the rest, although published at some other time in some other Tou-



sey publications, were new to the pages of Pluck and Luck, and from about 1903 onward, this weekly as well as the other Tousey color cover weeklies and Happy Days, had a new artist. A. Berghaus was no longer doing the covers. Who was Berghaus' successor? That is a question I would like to see answered. No. 875 started the reprinting all over again. Harry Wolff took charge of the Tousey publications in 1922. The size of Pluck and Luck was reduced with No. 1145, it ceased publication with No. 1605, dated Mar. 6, 1929. But it had run the gantlet of time for over 30 years.

A "thank you" to Charlie Bragin and Ralph Adimari for help with the Pluck and Luck angle of this article.

### TIP TOP & ROUGH RIDER CARDS By W. R. Johnson

A publisher's ad offering a set of post cards with pictures of Ted Strong and his friends to any reader who wrote a letter telling why he liked Rough Rider Weekly, and a similar ad offering Frank Merriwell cards, both of which appeared in Rough Rider No. 104, April 14, 1906, aroused my curiosity. I wondered if anyone had saved sets of the cards.

A letter to my good friend Reckless Ralph Cummings (whom I have known for about 30 years but have never met) brought the reply that he did not have the cards but would put a notice in Newsy News. The notice appeared in the May 1961 Roundup, and in a short time I received a letter from Mr. J. F. MacDonald offering both sets. I promptly ordered and received the cards, which are in fine condition. Mr. MacDonald wrote that he had kept the

cards since he received them in return for a coupon that appeared in Tip Top.

There are six cards in each set. They are regulation post card size, printed in color on a good grade of paper, with space on the back for name and address. The Rough Rider set consists of: Ted Strong, Carl Schwartz, Ben Tremont, Kit Summers, Ben Morgan, and "Bean Pole." The Tip Top set includes: Frank Merriwell, Dick Merriwell, Cap'n Wiley, Obediah Tubbs, Joe Crowfoot, and Brad Buckhart.

The pictures of Frank Merriwell and Ted Strong are rather formal and dignified. Their names are the only printing on the cards; there is no advertising. Frank is in western dress, which surprised me—I expected him to be in a ballplayer's uniform. Ted is in his Rough Rider uniform, of course. The other cards are much less formal, more brightly colored, some have more than one figure in the picture, and many are action poses. Obediah Tubbs, for example, is being chased by a goat, and "Bean-Pole" is on a bucking brone. Dick Merriwell is standing on the football field, and Brad Buckhart is at bat. "Tip Top Weekly, an Ideal Publication for the American Youth" is printed at the top of the Tip Top cards and "Rough Rider Weekly, the King of the Wild West Stories" at the top of the Rough Rider cards.

### MERRIWELL STORIES

#### in TIP TOP WEEKLY

Stories of Frank and Dick Merriwell and Tip Top Weekly are my specialty. Have hundreds in good condition at reasonable prices. Send want list.

**GUINON, Box 214, Little Rock, Ark.**

### THREE NEW BIBLIOGRAPHIC LISTINGS JUST ISSUED

No. 5	Frank Leslie's Boys of America, by J. P. Guinon	.50
No. 6	The Hearthstone, by Denis R. Rogers	.50
No. 7	Frank Leslie's Boys' and Girls' Weekly by J. P. Guinon	1.00

A small number of earlier listings are still available

No. 1	Boys of America (S&S) 9 pages. Compiled by Edward T. LeBlanc	.50
No. 2	Golden Hours, 46 pages. Compiled by Donald L. Steinhauer	1.00
No. 3	Golden Argosy/Argosy, 35 pages. Compiled by Stanley A. Pachon	1.00
No. 4	Beadles Frontier Series, 13 pages. Compiled by Denis R. Rogers	.50

In Preparation

No. 8 Wide Awake Library

**EDWARD T. LeBLANC**

87 School St.

Fall River, Mass.



**NICKEL NOVELS — STORY PAPERS — MISCELLANEOUS**

There were 13 Diamond Dick novels published in the Great Western Library (thick, paperbacks). A complete set for \$12.00, or some singles at \$1.00 each.

The Fra (Elbert Hubbard's Magazine). 15 diff. dates in 1916-1917. The lot for \$4.00.

The following rare, pocket-size, old nickel novels, good:

4 Gem Library \$6.00	4 Beadle's Pocket Library \$6.00
4 Beadle's Boys' Library \$6.00	4 Little Chief \$6.00
4 Nickel Library \$6.00	

One each of above, good, 5 kinds, \$7.50. One each, fair, \$2.50.

N. Y. Boys' Library (3 stories in each one). 5 fair, \$3.00.

"The Molly Maguire's Revenge." (Number 24 of Morrison's Sensational Series). Lacks covers. A rare one. \$1.00.

Leslie's Young America. Story paper of 1881. #7 to 22. (16 consecutive), \$10.00.

The Household. Bound volumes:

Jan. 1884 to Dec. 1886 (36 numbers) \$7.50

Jan. 1881 to Dec. 1883 (36 numbers) \$7.50

The Hearthstone. Vol. 3 #1 to 52. (1885). Loose. \$10.00

Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly. Singles, 50c each.

1880 Jan. to Dec. Bound in two volumes. \$6.00

Munro's Girls and Boys of America. #123 to 152. 1876. (30 consecutive). Loose. \$30.00

Boys' Champion. (Large page story paper 1881-1882). #5 to 49, loose, mostly good, (45 numbers), \$40.00

Young American. Boys of New York. Young Men of America. Singles \$1.00 each, good. One of each, fair only, 3 for \$1.00.

Young Rover. Some nice numbers at \$1.25 each.

Wide Awake Weekly. Dick Daresome novels, good, \$1.25 each.

Young Broadbrim. This is a rare old color-cover weekly. \$2.50 each. Have a couple of trimmed edge issues, \$2.00 each.

Western Weekly #53, 54, \$1.50 each. #73, 74. 75c each.

Readers' Package. 9 nickel novels, damaged, \$3.00.

Might and Main. \$1.50 each.

Deadwood Dick Library. #1 to 64. Ivers. Color covers. \$12.50.

Jack Harkaway. We have clothbound editions, paperback editions, English editions, and Wide Awake Library issues. The price range is 50c to \$1.50, most of them, 50c each.

Medal, Magnet, Bound-to-Win. 50c to \$2.00 each.

Postpaid.

Subject to prior sale.

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**Box 985**

**Lawrence, Mass.**